

## ELECTRICIAN'S BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 14, 2006

**Meeting convened at** 9:03 A.M.

**Meeting Adjourned at** 12:30 P.M.

### **DOPL STAFF**

Craig Jackson, *Director*  
F. David Stanley, *Associate Director*  
Dennis Meservy, *Bureau Manager*  
Katie Tris, *Secretary*  
Wayne Holman, *Investigations*

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brad Stevens, *Chairman*  
Frank Rydalch  
David Kingery  
Dirk Burton

### **MEMBER ABSENT**

Harold Weight, Excused

### **VISITORS**

Debb Allbrand  
Don Allbrand  
Sarah Baldwin, *Utah Clean Energy*  
Jason Berry, *UT-SEP*  
Orrin Farnsworth, *Carmanah*  
Ken Gardner, *UTSEA*  
John Kristensen, *Ogden Weber Applied Technical College*  
Renee McDonough, *IEC of Utah*  
Dale Olsen, *Utah Valley State College*  
Mike Pennie, *IBEW*  
Vern Petersen, *International Code Council*  
Will Pierce, *Salt Lake Community College*  
Dan Prows, *Integrated Energy Systems*  
Brian Smith, *UTSEA*  
David Smith, *Tahoe Solar/UTSEA*  
Lori Stewart, *MATC/Utah Valley State College*  
Joy Raynes, *Raynes Engineering*

Brad Stevens, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.  
Stevens made two announcements, one being that Division Director Craig Jackson is retiring at the end of December, 2006.

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The board thanked Jackson for all of his hard work and time with the electrical board. Stevens announced that David Stanley would replace Craig Jackson as the new division director. The board members congratulated Stanley in his new position.

### MINUTES

The October 19, 2006 board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Dirk Burton made a motion to approve the minutes. Frank Rydalch seconded the motion, all members voted in favor of the minutes. The November 16, 2006 board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Burton made a motion to approve the minutes. Rydalch seconded the motion, all members voted in favor of the minutes.

### SOLAR POWER LICENSING CLASSIFICATIONS

Several members of the solar industry discussed language in the proposed S202 solar photovoltaic license classification. Ken Gardner stated he holds the S215, solar energy systems, license classification and is NABCEP (North America Board of Certified Energy Practitioners) certified.

Gardner read the proposed current language for the S202 license classification. This reads: *"Fabrication, construction, installation, and repair of photovoltaic cell panels and related components including battery storage systems, distribution panels, switch gear, electrical wires, inverters, and other electrical apparatus for solar photovoltaic systems not exceeding 25 kilowatts output. Work excluded from this classification includes work on any alternating current system or system component."*

Gardner was concerned with the 25 kilowatts limitation. He stated the solar industry would like to amend the proposed language to read as follows: *Projects larger than 25 kilowatts output shall be permitted to be contracted for under this classification when subcontracted to and/or supervised by a current S201 (residential electric contractor) or S200 (general electric contractor) licensee as required by statute.*

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There was discussion concerning “minor electrical” being a gray area. Wayne Holman stated the S215 is a sub-classification of the general plumbing license. Holman stated it was his opinion that this type of electrical work needed to be done by an E100 (general engineering) or an electrical contractor. Those in attendance that represented the solar industry said they would like to exclude any alternating current point of connection to a public electrical utility. There was a question from industry concerning alternating current generators that are used to supplement battery charging on stand alone systems. These are small portable plug in generators (3500 watts or less) that anyone can buy at places like Home Depot or Lowes and install them self. The board indicated that the installation of these generators would not be excluded from this license classification. It was brought up by industry that a lot of the work is in remote areas of the state and to bring an electrician to the site is expensive. The licensee in the proposed S202 classification would be NABCEP certified and in most cases would have more knowledge of the solar system than the electrician.

A motion was made by Rydalch to go with the proposed current language for the Solar S202. David Kingery seconded the motion, all members voted in favor of the motion. Brad Stevens stated that this proposal would move on to the Construction Service Commission agenda in January.

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES EXEMPTION:**

Brad Stevens discussed the differences in the state code for 1991 and 1992 that dealt with the exemption for utilities from electrical licensing requirements. Under 58-55-6 (7) (k) of the 1991 code the wording was “*licensing requirements set forth in this chapter regarding electricians do not apply to: ... (ii) public service corporations, rural electrification associations, or municipal utilities who generate, distribute or sell electrical energy for light, heat, or power.*”

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A year later in 1992 under state code 58-55-6(7)(l) the wording was changed to: *“any persons who ordinarily would be subject to the electrician licensure requirements set forth in this chapter when employed by or under contract with: ... (ii) public service corporations, rural electrification associations, or municipal utilities who generate, distribute, or sell electrical energy for light, heat, or power.”*

This language of “under contract with” was added in 1992 and is in current law (state code 58-55-305(1)(m)). This language has allowed a contractor to use unlicensed electricians in the construction of a power plant that is being built for Rocky Mountain Power. Mike Pennie asked why the law was changed. Wayne Holman had researched this, but said he couldn’t come up with any answers. Pennie said Senator Ed Mayne had been contacted in regards to changing the present statute. It was mentioned that DOPL should propose this legislative change in the law. Holman stated that DOPL does not propose legislative changes and that this change needed to come from industry. Pennie was asked if Rocky Mountain Power had been contacted to see what their position was on changing the current law. Pennie said there was going to be a meeting with Rocky Mountain.

### **APPROVAL OF QUEST NETWORK CEU PROVIDER**

The board reviewed and discussed approval of quest network as a CEU provider. Questions came up from Renee McDonough if we are approving Quest Network or just the instructor. After discussion a motion was made by Dirk Burton to approve Quest Network with N. Joe Patterson as a CEU provider. It was seconded by David Kingery. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### **PRACTICAL EXAM**

In the past the old electrical candidate bulletin would indicate that if an applicant took a practical exam they did not have to take the practical exam again. Residential journeymen used this as a loop hole to avoid the harder journeyman practical test. This problem, however, has been corrected.

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The new candidate information bulletin indicates that if an applicant is going from the residential journeyman to a journeyman they are required to take the practical exam. Katie Tris stated that in the processing of applications, she would make sure this is done. There was a discussion about updating the administrative rules for electricians. To accomplish this task assistance would be required from Lenore Epstein of the Attorney General's Office. Brad Stevens asked that Epstein be put on the agenda, after the first of the year, to meet with the board to discuss updating the administrative rules.

### **IDAHO & TEXAS MULTI-STATE RECIPROCAL**

The board reviewed allowing Idaho into the Multi-State Electrical Group. Stevens mentioned that Utah outside of this Multi-State Group already has an independent reciprocal agreement with Idaho. Idaho left the Multi-State Electrical Group, but was trying to reenter. Stevens indicated the agreement being discussed to allow Idaho back into the group, would not change our individual agreement with Idaho. A motion was made by Burton to approve Idaho into the Multi-State Group. The motion was seconded by Kingery, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Texas did not start licensing electricians as a state until September 1, 2003. Prior to state licensing, the electricians that were licensed in Texas were licensed by local jurisdictions. When the State of Texas took over licensing these individuals were licensed through grandfathering. This was a concern to the Multi-State Group when they met in Sandy, Utah this past August. They requested a letter from Texas with additional information. The board reviewed the letter that was received from Texas. The current requirements in Texas include: 8,000 hours of on the job training under the supervision of a master electrician and passing the state test. A motion was made by Rydalch to accept, as a part of the Multi-State Group, journeyman electricians from Texas that passed the state examination as of January 1, 2006. The motion was seconded by Kingery, all members voted in favor of the motion.

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**APPLICATION REVIEW:** Board reviewed out of state applications.

**All business concluded, meeting adjourned.**

*Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.*

Board Chairperson Signature	Date
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Dennis Meservy, Bureau Manager Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_